

1                   In the Claims

2                   Claims 21-64 were pending at the time of the Office Action.

3                   Claims 21-30 were previously withdrawn by Response to Restriction  
4                   Requirement filed 9/4/03.

5                   Claims 31-64 are rejected.

6                   Please cancel previously withdrawn claims 21-30.

7                   No claims are amended by this Response.

8                   Accordingly, claims 31-64 are now pending and are shown in the following  
9                   detailed list of claims:

11                   List of Claims:

12                   Claims 1-30. (Canceled)

13                   31. (Previously presented) A method facilitating the transmission of  
14                   streamed digital media data from a server, the server being configured for  
15                   coupling to a client via a computer network, the method comprising:

16                   receiving multiple communications requests from a client, each request  
17                   employing a different network protocols and each request requesting that a server  
18                   respond to such request using the same network protocol employed by that  
19                   request;

20                   responding to one of the requests using the same network protocol  
21                   employed by that request.

1       32. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 31 further  
2 comprising responding to each request using the network protocol associated with  
3 each request.

4  
5       33. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 31, wherein  
6 the multiple communications requests are received substantially concurrently.

7  
8       34. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 31, wherein  
9 the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP,  
10 UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through  
11 port (multiplex) 8080.

12  
13       35. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 31, wherein  
14 the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

15  
16       36. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 31, wherein  
17 the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

18  
19       37. (Previously presented) A method facilitating the transmission of  
20 streamed digital media data from a server, the server being configured for  
21 coupling to a client via a computer network, the method comprising:

22            sending multiple communications requests to a server from a client, each  
23 request employing a different network protocols and each requests requesting that  
24 the server respond to such request using the same network protocol employed by  
25 that requests; and

1 receiving one or more responses from the server, wherein each response  
2 corresponds to one of the multiple requests and each response employs the same  
3 network protocol employed by its corresponding request.

4  
5 38. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37 further  
6 comprising determining a "most advantageous" protocol amongst network  
7 protocols employed by the responses from the server.

8  
9 39. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37 further  
10 comprising determining a "most advantageous" protocol amongst network  
11 protocols employed by the responses from the server, wherein the "most  
12 advantageous" protocol has been predefined as such and has an associated "most  
13 advantageous" priority, and wherein the determining comprises selecting a  
14 network protocol having the "most advantageous" priority.

15  
16 40. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein  
17 the multiple communications requests are sent substantially in parallel.

18  
19 41. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein  
20 the multiple communications requests are sent substantially concurrently.

21  
22 42. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein  
23 the multiple communications requests are sent within a bounded time frame.

1       43. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein  
2 the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP,  
3 UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through  
4 port (multiplex) 8080.

5  
6       44. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein  
7 the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

8  
9       45. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein  
10 the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

11  
12      46. (Previously presented) A server system facilitating the  
13 transmission of streamed digital media data via a computer network, the system  
14 comprising:

15        a receiver configured to receive multiple communications requests from a  
16 client, such requests employing differing network protocols; and

17        a responder configured to respond to one of the requests using the same  
18 network protocol employed by that request.

19  
20      47. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein  
21 the responder is further configured to respond to each request using the network  
22 protocol associated with each request.

23  
24      48. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein  
25 the multiple communications requests are received substantially concurrently.

1  
2 49. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein  
3 the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP,  
4 UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through  
5 port (multiplex) 8080.

6  
7 50. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein  
8 the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

9  
10 51. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein  
11 the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

12  
13 52. (Previously presented) A client system facilitating the  
14 transmission of streamed digital media data via a computer network, the system  
15 comprising:

16 a transmitter configured to send multiple communications requests to a  
17 server, each requests employing a different network protocols and requesting that  
18 the server respond using the same network protocol employed by that request; and

19 a monitor configured to receive one or more responses from the server,  
20 wherein each responses corresponds to one or more of the multiple requests and  
21 each response employs the same network protocol employed by its corresponding  
22 request.

23  
24  
25

1       53. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52 further  
2 comprising a protocol selector configured to select a "most advantageous"  
3 protocol amongst network protocols employed by the responses from the server.

4  
5       54. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52 wherein  
6 the "most advantageous" protocol has been predefined as such and has an  
7 associated "most advantageous" priority, the protocol selector configured to select  
8 the "most advantageous" protocol based on the "most advantageous" priority.

9  
10      55. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52, wherein  
11 the transmitter is further configured to send multiple communications requests  
12 substantially in parallel.

13  
14      56. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52, wherein  
15 the transmitter is further configured to send multiple communications requests  
16 substantially concurrently.

17  
18      57. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52, wherein  
19 the transmitter is further configured to send multiple communications requests  
20 within a bounded time frame.

21  
22      58. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52, wherein  
23 the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP,  
24 UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through  
25 port (multiplex) 8080.

1  
2 59. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52, wherein  
3 the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

4  
5 60. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52, wherein  
6 the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

7  
8 61. (Previously presented) A method comprising:  
9 sending multiple requests to a server from a client, each request employing  
10 a different network protocol and requesting that the server respond using the same  
11 network protocol employed by that request;

12 receiving one or more responses from the server, wherein each response  
13 corresponds to one of the multiple requests and each response employs the same  
14 network protocol employed by its corresponding request;

15 determining if a predefined "best" network protocol is employed by a  
16 response from the server; and

17 if the predefined "best" network protocol is employed by a response from  
18 the server, saving parameters pertaining to the predefined "best" network protocol  
19 to enable the client to communicate with the server in future communications  
20 using the predefined "best" network protocol.

21  
22 62. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 61, further  
23 comprising:

1           if the predefined "best" network protocol is not employed by a response  
2 from the server, selecting a "most advantageous" network protocol employed by a  
3 response from the server; and

4           conducting future communications between the client and the server using  
5 the "most advantageous" network protocol.

6  
7       63. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 62, further  
8 comprising:

9           determining that the "most advantageous" network protocol is no longer  
10 appropriate;

11           ascertaining a new "most advantageous" network protocol employed by a  
12 response from the server; and

13           conducting future communications between the client and the server using  
14 the new "most advantageous" network protocol.

15  
16       64. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 62, wherein  
17 the client and the server comprise a computer network that employs a network  
18 topology, and wherein the determining comprises discovering that the network  
19 topology has changed.